

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 6, 2004. Claims 1 to 9, 11, and 12 are in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claim 10 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 4, and 9 have been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Certified copies of the foreign priority applications are being filed concurrently herewith, by a Submission of Priority Documents. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copies is respectfully requested.

Transmitted herewith are two replacement drawing sheets comprising Figs. 2A, 2B, 3, and 4. The replacement drawing sheets include the changes required by the Office Action. In particular, a --PRIOR ART-- legend has been added to each of Figs. 2A, 2B, 3, and 4. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claim 10 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) for being of improper dependent form. The rejection is respectfully traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the cancellation of Claim 10.

Claims 1 to 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The rejection is respectfully traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the cancellation of Claim 10, and by the amendment of Claims 1 and 4 in a manner believed to obviate the grounds of rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 9 to 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 2,823,245 (Solow). Claims 1 to 4 and 9 to 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Solow in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,415,700 (Arthur).

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 8 to 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Solow in view of JP 55-68681 (JP '681). Claims 1, 2, 4 to 7, and 9 to 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0055894 (Iwasaki). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a surface of said plate-shaped member including said one side of said plate-shaped member and not in contact with said first support member has a part in contact with said second support member.

Solow is not seen to teach or suggest at least the foregoing feature.

As shown in Fig. 1 of Solow, the conducting base 12 of the photocell 11 on the right does not have a surface in contact with the photocell 11 in the middle.

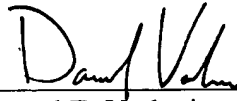
Arthur, JP '681, and Iwasaki are not seen to add anything to remedy the deficiencies of Solow.

Claims 1 to 4 and 10 to 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0000334 (Ressler). Claims 1 to 4 and 8 to 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ressler in view of JP '681. Claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ressler in view of Iwasaki. The rejections are respectfully traversed, and are submitted to have been obviated by the filing concurrently herewith, by a Letter Transmitting Sworn Translations, of a sworn translation of Japan 2002-090187, filed March 28, 2002 (prior to the June 27, 2002 filing date of the provisional application corresponding to Ressler), from which application the subject application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119. See MPEP § 201.15. A sworn translation of priority application Japan 2003-064313, filed March 11, 2003, is also being submitted with the Letter.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.



Damond E. Vadnais
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
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